

Illegal Forest Conversion in the Mekong: Policy implications for land investments, climate, and forest legality initiatives



Forest Trends Expert Workshop

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Overarching Questions



1. When is forest-land conversion necessary, and how can it be achieved equitably and sustainably?
1. What is necessary for laws governing forest-land conversion to better balance social and environmental priorities with economic development in Mekong countries?
2. Does a focus on legality in conversion and the products arising from it create a new entry point for influencing domestic and international policies and processes related to land use and forest conversion in the Mekong?
3. What are the potential synergies between existing climate finance initiatives (such as REDD+) and timber regulations (such as FLEGT+) to leverage credible legal compliance in land conversion? What is the role of the private sector?